



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

**CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND DIRECT SERVICES  
MEETING  
20 MARCH 2006**

Report of Corporate Director – Environmental Services

## **ENVIRONMENT LEVY FOR MERCURY ABATEMENT**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

1. To approve an environmental levy of £25 per cremation in order to accrue funding to undertake mercury abatement work at the Crematorium.

### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 2.1 DEFRA regulations require Markeaton Crematorium to abate mercury emissions by 50% before the 2012 deadline. The Planning and Environment Commission produced a report and amongst its recommendations were that cremation charges should be increased by £25 from 2006 and that the money raised should be ring fenced so that it can be used in the future to offset the cost of the works that will be needed at the Crematorium.
- 2.2 The Council is required to inform DEFRA about how we intend to proceed. It is proposed that we will abate by 50% before the 2012 deadline but that we delay this as long as practically possible so that the existing cremators can approach the end of their economic working life.
- 2.3 The sustainability of the proposed timing will need to be reviewed after DEFRA have considered responses from other cremation authorities.

**For more information contact:** John Winters - 01332 716401 - e-mail [john.winters@derby.gov.uk](mailto:john.winters@derby.gov.uk)  
**Background papers:** Planning and Environment Commission Report 18 November 2005 –  
**List of appendices:** Report on a Review of the ways in which the Council might comply with the DEFRA regulations for controlling Mercury Emissions from Markeaton Crematorium.  
Appendix 1 – Implications

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
---------------------

**Financial**

- 1.1 An increase of £25 per cremation above the proposed increase for April 2006 should generate £75,000 annually. Over a 5 year period, a sum of £375,000 should be accumulated to go towards the cost of abatement which is estimated to be from £1.3 million to £2 million.
- 1.2 The cost of an adult cremation from April 2006 will be £335.

**Personnel**

2. None at this stage.

**Legal**

3. The Council is legally required to comply with the DEFRA regulations.

**Equalities Impact**

4. None.